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REPORT

CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Rumania  
 SUBJECT Economic - Industry, new methods  
 HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical  
 WHERE PUBLISHED Bucharest  
 DATE PUBLISHED Jul 1951  
 LANGUAGE Rumanian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1951

DATE DIST. 27 May 1952

NO. OF PAGES 6

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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ENCOURAGE INNOVATIONS IN RUMANIAN INDUSTRY

I. Gherendi, Pres of Comm  
 for Inventions and Discoveries

The encouragement of innovations is one of the principal means of promoting industrial progress.

During 1951, workers submitted 3,537 suggestions for innovations and discoveries. Of these 2,780 were accepted and 2,765 were put into practice. The chemical and metallurgical industries alone submitted 1,555. These innovations and rationalizations in the technological process were responsible for economies reaching 1,535,000,000 lei and contributed to the 104 percent realization of the State Plan for 1950.

During 1950, new forms of socialist competition were developed. Competitions by professions and by production and quality brigades were organized for the achievement of the greatest possible economies by individual workers, engineers, and technicians.

The increasing adoption of advanced Soviet work methods has given workers, technicians, and engineers engaged in socialist competition an opportunity to increase the productivity of labor and to exceed the outdated work norms. During 1950, Soviet methods were adopted and developed on an even greater scale.

The method of high-speed metal cutting, developed by Soviet Stakhanovites G. S. Bortkevich and P. Bykov, was used on a limited scale during 1950 by the Sovromtractor and Steagul Rosu works in Stalin, by the 23 August and Republica works in Bucharest, and by other enterprises throughout the country. Lathe operators Emeric Karaksony of Sovromtractor, Arpad Balogh of Electroprecizia (Satu Lung), and N. Servanescu of Republica achieved important successes by using this method. At the Steagul Rosu works in Stalin, a course in high-speed cutting, attended by 20 lathe operators, was organized for popularizing this Soviet method.

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In the iron and steel industry, the method of rapid charges developed by Stakhanovite Matulinet has been adopted. In light industry, the method of organizing quality brigades, developed by Stakhanovite A. S. Chutkikh, has been used rather extensively. Several branches of industry have adopted other Stakhanovite methods: that of Nina Nezarova for extending the useful life of certain types of machinery, that of Lidiya Korabelnikova for economizing raw and auxiliary materials, and those of Novalev and V. M. Orlov in the field of construction. In several enterprises, numerous workers were trained in accordance with a new qualification system developed by Stakhanovite Kotlyar. These methods increase considerably the productivity of labor, stimulate the constructive initiative of our working people, and are responsible for an ever-increasing number of innovations and rationalizations.

The wider application of Soviet work methods not only rapidly increases the productivity of labor but also stimulates the initiative of leading workers and technicians. For instance, organizing (in accordance with the method developed by Stakhanovite Lidiya Korabelnikova) a mixed economy brigade in the bearing section of the Steagul Rosu works in Stalin stimulated mechanic Frederic Pillman to develop new mechanical devices which greatly reduced the time required for operating lathes. Mechanic Gheorghe Vasu of the Secera si Ciocanul workshop (of the Danube-Black Sea canal construction project), by studying the method of Stakhanovite Vladimir Puchiko of the combine factory in Krasnoyarsk, mounted two reamers on the same shaft. By simultaneous operation of two reamers, he made four pinions in 10 hours instead of one pinion in 18 hours, as before.

The decision of the Plenary Session of the Central Committee on 3 December 1950 concerning the Five-Year Plan has established as a principal task "raising the level of socialist competition, after the example of the Soviet Stakhanovite movement."

Smelter: Stauber Carol, Iacob Nicolae, and Garas Ion, of furnace No 1 of the Sovrommetal Combine (Resita), by applying the rapid charge method developed by Stakhanovite Matuliner, performed 33 rapid charges from 1 to 23 March 1951.

Brigades for the high-speed cutting of metals were formed at the Sovromtractor works (in Stalin). One hundred lathe operators have joined the brigades and are using the method for rapid cutting of metals developed by Soviet Stakhanovite Bykov. By using the Kuznetsov method of reconditioning tools and parts, the ironworker team of Gh. Branzei, Constantin Sovca, Gh. Balan, and others (of the P. C. Iasi workshop) achieved economics amounting to 762,000 lei.

In the enterprises of the Ministry of the Chemical and Metallurgical Industry, 417 inventions, innovations, and improvements have been put into practice. In the construction field, 27 innovations and improvements have been put into practice. Seventeen innovations have been adopted by the oil industry and 27 by the Ministry of Transportation, while 14 innovations and improvements have been adopted by the electrotechnical industry.

As a consequence the technical level of production, receiving modern Soviet equipment, improving labor organization, making more effective use of working time, adopting new Soviet work methods, revising norms, and improving workers' qualifications, the productivity of labor in our industries has increased during the first quarter of 1951 by 11 percent over that of the first quarter of 1950.

Reward is an important stimulus to the development of the innovators' movement. Thus, during the period 1 January to 31 May 1951, a reward of 2 million lei was given to Engineer Leon Popa for the invention of an electric

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machine for mechanically loading cereals, which does the work of 120 people, assures improved quality of cereals, and separates cereals from chaff, dust, and other foreign elements, thus achieving a yearly economy of 138,618,131 lei.

Cash awards were given to Ion Balan for inventing a machine for making scythes, and to Adam Belan, Breide, Ludovic and others for technological improvements.

One of the present shortcomings in the innovation and Stakhanovite movements in our industry is the failure of most ministries to popularize the regulations on inventions and discoveries which specify the awards for inventors, innovators, and rationalizers.

To assure just awards for innovators, a "register of innovations" is provided for every enterprise. The register of innovations must contain the innovator's name, an exact description of his proposed innovation, a list of the advantages expected from its adoption, and the exact date of submission of the innovation. This registration is designed to guarantee the rights of innovators and to determine the awards to which they are legally entitled. A register also helps ascertain the progress made by enterprises in adopting proposed innovations. Finally, it reflects the interest displayed by individual enterprises in the innovation movement.

Although several enterprises, such as the Republic Tube Works and the Sovromtractor Works, understand the importance of the register, many other large enterprises, such as the Filatura Romana de Bumbac, the Filimon Sarbu Factory, the Atelierele Triaj CFR (Rumanian Railroads) of Bucharest, and others, have not yet established a register of innovations.

The decision of the Council of Ministers concerning the awarding of state prizes for the best innovations is of the greatest importance for stimulating and giving moral and material rewards to innovators. A significant fact is that many lathe operators, casters, electricians, boiler makers, mechanics, and locksmiths who have made and are making worthwhile technological contributions are included among the innovators and rationalizers receiving state prizes.

To achieve success in the innovators' movement, it is essential to organize exchanges of experience. The exchange of experience is important for popularizing and expanding the scope of new working methods, innovations, and rationalizations. Exchanges of experience take place within the same branches of production, both at home and abroad.

A good example of exchange of experience is the National Meeting of Smelters which took place in Bucharest on 10 December 1950. The purpose of the meeting was to analyze smelting enterprises with regard to organization of workshops and improvement of equipment and the quality of production. Representatives of the Academy of the Rumanian People's Republic, the Polytechnic Institute, Ipromet (Institute of Metallurgical Planning), Iprochim (Institute of Chemical Planning), the Ministry of Electric Energy, the General Technological Directorate of the Ministry of Chemical and Metallurgical Industry, and of many industrial enterprises attended the meeting. Positive results were achieved from this exchange of experience. The enterprises were entrusted with definite tasks which will have to be fulfilled in the spirit of technical collaboration among specialists.

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The visit of Soviet Stakhanovites to the Rumanian People's Republic has been of great importance for development of the innovators' movement. A recent delegation of the Soviet Stakhanovites was composed of leaders of the Soviet industry, including: P. B. Bykov, laureate of the Stalin Prize and lathe operator at the lathe works in Moscow; V. G. Blazhenov, laureate of the Stalin Prize and locomotive mechanic at the locomotive depot in Moscow; M. I. Michisin, laureate of the Stalin Prize, Lidiya Kononenko, laureate of the Stalin Prize; I. A. Filimonov, hero of Socialist Labor, and V. V. Korolev, laureate of the Stalin Prize.

At the Timpul Noi Works in Bucharest, 35 lathe operators, by following the instructions of Stakhanovite Bykov, are today able to exceed the norms regularly by 150 to 300 percent and to make parts of superior quality.

As a result of the adoption of the work methods explained by Filimonov, the miners' brigade led by Ion Matasareanu (Lupeni mine) exceeded the norm by 186 percent. Miners Balasz Buz and Cziczter exceeded the norm by 52 percent. Guided by Filimonov's explanations, our workers succeeded in fulfilling their production programs ahead of schedule.

The lessons learned through the exchange of experience made it possible for many leading workers in the textile industry to better their own records. Thus, textile workers Antoaneta, Rozalian Nistor, and Tina Schwartz (of the Tesatura Iasi), who formerly operated 6-8 looms, have begun to operate 10-12 looms at the same time and are making products of superior quality.

Competitions will be organized in every enterprise and industry. The topics selected for the competitions must be connected with the tasks prescribed by the plan. The Committee for Inventions and Discoveries has already begun to organize a competition in collaboration with various ministries and is currently preparing a set of topics. Prizes, proportionate to the importance of the respective problems, will be awarded.

Important stimuli for the innovations movement are the innovations exhibits of enterprises and ministries. These exhibits display models, parts, sketches, graphic presentations of innovations, and innovations that reduce manufacturing costs, accelerate the circulation of funds, and improve the production process. The purpose of these exhibits is to stimulate the innovators' initiative by promoting public recognition of their achievements. Moreover, the exhibits are a means for exchange of experience among workers, engineers, and technicians (of the same enterprises as well as of other enterprises). At the same time, the exhibits of the various enterprises provide the materials necessary for setting up the ministerial exhibits.

In accordance with practices in the USSR, technical departments were organized for the first time in several industrial enterprises during 1949. Dozens of technical departments have been established since then, such as those of Sovromtractor in Stalin, the 23 August Works in Bucharest, Sovrommetal in Resita, and Independenta in Sibiu.

Nevertheless, a large number of industrial enterprises have not yet set up technical departments. Thus, many large enterprises like Filatura Romana de Bumbac, Metaloglobus, Atelierele CFR-Tria (Bucharest), Metalurgica (Sibiu), and others do not have technical departments. These enterprises must understand the significance by the party and the government to the establishment of technical departments. They are considered essential for the successful development of a mass innovation movement. The technical departments must direct the work of our innovators toward the solution of the outstanding technical problems of every industrial enterprise.

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Among the most important tasks entrusted to technical departments in the work of assisting innovators are the following.

The technical department must assist innovators in preparing the memoranda and explanatory drawings of their project, and must give them technical and bibliographical guidance, as well as other suggestions, so that the innovators' projects may be submitted in the best possible form. The technical department must assist innovators by procuring the necessary technical literature and by verifying the economic efficacy of the suggested innovations in terms of the reduction of manufacturing costs, acceleration of the circulation of operating funds, efficiency of utilization of capital assets, and qualitative improvement of production and working conditions.

While planning, executing, and experimenting with technological improvements, the technical department must try to assure the best possible results by suggesting improvements in the innovators' working techniques.

In the exchanges of experience organized by trade union organizations, the technical department must suggest well-defined topics and the best technical means for their execution, in order to establish a solid technical and scientific basis for the exchanges of experience.

The technical department must assist scientific conferences organized by the ASIT (Associations of Engineers and Technicians) by presenting subjects connected with the problems of individual enterprises and by providing the necessary technical documentation.

The technical department must organize conferences between innovators and the specialized technical cadres, as well as technical consultations and meetings devoted to theoretical and practical instruction.

The technical department is entrusted with organizing and maintaining an up-to-date technical library and must pass the latest scientific information on to the enterprise personnel. It must also popularize new work methods and assure their technical improvement.

In the technical department of the Puhusi Textile Factory, all the personnel (technicians, technical writers and draftsmen) give the required documentary material to innovators, rationalizers, and all those interested in applying advanced work methods. This department has done its best to popularize the most modern work methods. Moreover, it has arranged daily consultation hours conducted by specialists from the manufacturing sections and has held weekly meetings of the various specialized branches of the enterprise; this is of great help in raising the professional level of the workers and technicians of the factory. The department has also arranged show-window displays of innovations and rationalizations achieved in the factory. The technical department of the Puhusi Textile Factory works in close collaboration with the committees of ASIT and SRSC (Society for the Dissemination of Science and Culture), and enjoys the full support of the trade union organization. A competition in honor of the 30th anniversary of the party has been organized by the technical department. The competition includes 33 problems on various specialized subjects whose solution must be submitted by certain closing dates. These are some sample problems: a device for tying yarn to spinning and weaving machines without stopping the machine; increasing the spinning capacity of looms; automatic attachment of the spindle to the weaving machine; application of the Kozlov method in mixing chambers; dielectric drying.

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By working in this manner, the technical department of Buhusi Textile Factory has become the principal source of transmitting advanced technological information to the enterprise personnel, and has stimulated their creative initiative.

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